



## LABOR GOV'T AIDS THE FARMER

Supports E.R.P.



CLARIE GILLIS, M.P.

### "FULL STOMACH" FIRST NECESSITY

TORONTO.—E. R. P. is the world's only chance for peace because unless people have their stomachs full, they can't get back to the ways of economic and political stability. Clarie Gillis, C.C.F. M.P., and a delegate from the Glace Bay mine workers, told the Canadian Congress of Labor convention last week.

Mr. Gillis was speaking on the international policy resolution which became the subject of sharp Communist and anti-Communist debate.

The long resolution which supported E.R.P., condemned Russian expansion and the blockade of Berlin, and supported the Western European defence alliance and Atlantic defence, was passed overwhelmingly.

Pat Conroy in winding up the debate, charged that the aim of the Communists in Canada now is "to render us defenceless politically and militarily, while Soviet Russia pursues a policy of aggression."



### PERSONAL STUFF

BY E. E. R.

I've attended a good many farewell parties, testimonial dinners and the like in the past thirty years, but I cannot remember any such affair that had more of a ring of spontaneous sincerity to it than the banquet given to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Spencer and Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Saunders at Wainwright last Friday night. The locale of the affair was itself significant. The Spencers live near Edgerton, the Saunders near Irma. One place is twenty miles east of Wainwright, the other about the same distance west. It was Wainwright which staged the banquet, of the essence of the wide circle of the big community in which the honored guests had given each long and faithful service. What turned out to be a long program did not seem long because of the (Continued on Page 8)

## Price Controls, Subsidies Are Requested by C.C.L.

TORONTO, (CPA).—Price controls and subsidies were demanded in vigorous terms in a resolution passed by the C.C.L. convention in Toronto last week. The resolution concluded:

"Whereas this Congress, in its submissions to the Government, has proposed plans for the control of this (inflationary) situation, at the same time warning the government as to what would occur if adequate price controls were not maintained, in all of which this Congress has been wilfully ignored, and time has proven that what the Congress prophesied has occurred:

"Therefore be it resolved that this convention, in the most emphatic terms possible, re-affirm its demand for the immediate implementation of an adequate and effective system of price controls, and subsidies where necessary, on all essential commodities, and further, that the Congress Executive redouble its efforts to re-impress this need upon the government and, at the same time, take every possible step to organize public opinion behind this necessary demand."

The resolution was substituted by the Resolutions Committee for nineteen individual resolutions on the same subject submitted by locals and labor councils.

#### Subsidized Housing

Other resolutions passed by the C.C.L. convention called for a "comprehensive subsidized housing plan"; Dominion-wide legislation to establish the eight-hour day and the forty-hour week; legislation to guarantee a minimum two weeks' vacation with pay; an end to "controversies and frictions" over jurisdiction; the peacetime expansion of Canada's shipbuilding industry; a minimum annual wage of \$2,000; adequate systems of industrial pensions, and establishment of farmer-labor-teacher Occupational Group Councils along lines which have been successfully developed in Saskatchewan.

### 'From C to c'

TORONTO, (CPA).—"Now that the smoke and noise of the conventions has cleared away, we see as leader of the Conservative Party a conservative with a big C, and as leader of the Liberal Party a conservative with a small c, apparently this is what the old parties mean by Canada stretching from C to c, and it has gone on that way long enough."

Professor Frank Scott, national chairman of the C.C.F., told Ontario C.C.F.ers at a packed convention banquet on October 8 that the wave of reaction in North America since the war had "broken on the rock of the Ontario provincial election" in June. "And I know you are still on the upswing," he told the applauding audience.

#### New Model Cars

### ARE "BEAUTIFUL BUT DANGEROUS"

WASHINGTON.—Sometimes it is necessary to go to Canada to read news which American daily papers do not publish, apparently for fear of offending big advertisers. Here's an example:

Last week, the Montreal "Star" had an article and editorial about a statement issued by the New York Automobile Club. It said "A steady stream of motorists are complaining that the post-war automobile is difficult to drive and park, and costly to repair."

"Many drivers have found the seats too low and the hoods too long. It is impossible to see enough of the road in front of the car."

#### Old Cars Better

"Fenders are now built into the body in one piece. When repairs are required, part of the body must be cut away. This increases fender repair costs at least five times. A fender repair job, that cost \$5 ten years ago now costs \$25."

"In some automobiles, the engine must be taken out of the car for even minor reconditioning. Bumpers of other models are too close to the bodies to offer protection in even slight collisions."

The editorial declares that modern cars are "beautiful but dangerous" and costly to operate, and that the older models are "better" in many ways.

#### N.A. Newspaper Alliance

## Pictures British Medical Scheme As Big Success

WASHINGTON.—Leaders of the American Medical Association and other opponents of health insurance have been conducting an unscrupulous "smear" campaign against the new system of "free medical care for all" set up by Britain's Labor government. In speeches and articles, they are claiming the British plan has "broken down."

That propaganda sustained a serious setback in a story sent to newspapers in this country from London by the North American Newspaper Alliance, a leading news and feature syndicate. Many subscribing papers failed to publish the piece, but a few did.

The story revealed that the new system "has not caused the upheaval predicted by the doctors"—that on the contrary, most physicians have adjusted themselves to the setup and vast numbers of people who could not previously afford (Continued on Page 8)

To Broadcast



A. J. E. LIESEMER, M.L.A., will speak over a CBC Alberta network on Thursday, October 28, at 8:15 p.m. It will be carried by CFCN, Calgary; CFRN, Edmonton; CHAT, Medicine Hat. It was previously announced that Elmer E. Roper would be the speaker on this occasion but he will be in Winnipeg on that date attending a meeting of the National Council of the Canadian Red Cross Society.

### INDICT AUTO FIRMS FOR SLUSH FUND AID

WASHINGTON.—Four automobile sales companies in Flint, Michigan, have been indicted by a Federal grand jury for making contributions to the Republican coffers. Under Federal law, corporations are not supposed to contribute to political campaigns, but it is alleged that each of the concerns kicked in \$500 in 1946: That's when the reactionary Republican Congress was elected.

## Agriculture Now Getting Square Deal

BY KENNETH C. RATHBONE  
MANCHESTER, England, (CPA).—Remarkable improvements in farming and the countryside during three years of Labor government are expected to lead to Labor gains at future elections in rural areas where Labor candidates considered their prospects hopeless ten years ago.

During the last ten years the Labor Party has been showing more interest than ever before in the countryside and farming problems, and a great deal of party literature on farming matters has been issued. Several constituencies which are largely agricultural returned Labor members of parliament for the first time at the 1945 general election.

Labor policy has guaranteed prices and markets for the main (Continued on page 8)

#### "Sweden: Middle Way"

### MARQUIS CHILDS' BOOK ACCLAIMED

CHICAGO, (CUC).—Marquis Childs' widely read "Sweden: The Middle Way," written ten years ago and revised in pocket-size edition recently, headed the list of the "Ten Best Co-op Books" in a poll of co-op editors and educational directors conducted by the Co-operative League of the U.S.A. The poll was a feature conducted in preparation for CO-OPERATIVE BOOK WEEK which was held in the United States October 10-16. From it came ten top-notch books recommended to readers and also to be featured in Book Week displays.

#### Ten Best Sellers

"Masters of Their Own Destiny," perennial co-op best-seller written by Mags. M. M. Gandy, placed fourth on the list and was the only Canadian-produced book to make the "big-ten." Native-Canadian, Bertram B. Fowler, now a President of the U.S. and author of many co-op books and magazine articles, saw his "The Co-operative Challenge" voted to third place. Others in the "best ten" in order of preference were: "Co-operative Democracy," by Dr. James Warshaw, 2nd; "Decline and Rise of the Consumer," by Dr. H. M. Kallen, 5th; "Paddy the Cope," by Patrick Gallagher, 6th; "Confessions of a Co-op Preacher," by Jerry Vondra, 7th; "Doctors of Today and Tomorrow," by Michael Shadid, 8th; "Nobody Owns Us," by Davis Dwyer, 9th; and "Dollar A Month," by Adam Alton, 10th. Canadian Gen. Boyce's "Co-operative Summer Camps" and a number of position.

### AMAZING GROWTH OF CREDIT UNIONS

OTTAWA, (CUC).—Although Canada's first credit union, founded in Levis, Quebec, by Alphonse Desjardins, was established only in 1900, the Canadian credit union movement is easily one of the foremost in the world in this year of 1948, the centenary of the first workable co-operative credit scheme founded in Germany. The evidence can be found in the report, "Credit Unions in Canada, 1947," by J. E. O'Hara, now released by the Economics Division of the Dominion Department of Agriculture.

Growing fast. It's a young movement in Canada, but powerful and growing fast. For thirty years after the (Continued on Page 8)



## Can We Disarm?

**R**USSIA HAS once again repeated her propagandistic plea that the nations of the world should disarm.

This time the Western Powers have done more than refuse. Diplomatic subtleties were discarded. Speaking for Belgium, Spaak, who is a Socialist, frankly told Russia that she is the danger of her intentions and because she maintains in every country a fifth column which makes Nazi activities look like a Boy Scout effort.

Britain and the United States stated that they had disarmed too much and too quickly since World War II; and that they propose to stabilize and rebuild their defence forces.

All this, just three years after the most frightful war in history! All this, by governments on behalf of democratic peoples whose fervent prayer is that there be no more war!

### Potentially Pre-War Period

Already we seem to have moved from a postwar into at least a potentially prewar period. For never yet have the nations of the world been able to start rearmament, and later reverse the trend without war.

This raises such grim possibilities that democratic peoples will want to examine carefully the situation to assure themselves that such a fateful decision was justified.

As examination of the situation reveals, that within recent months three important agencies of U.N. fixed with responsibilities related to the maintenance of peace, have broken off negotiations completely.

First, there was the Atomic Energy Commission. As far back as last May, by 9 votes (U.S.A., Britain, France, China, Canada, Argentina, Belgium, Columbia, Syria) to 2 (Soviet Union and the Ukraine), the AEC decided to suspend its work. It reported at the time that after two years' work and over 200 meetings it had failed to reach agreement "owing to political factors outside its competence."

### Report Failure

Second, there is the Commission on Conventional Armaments—dealing with all arms other than atomic and bacteriological. On July 26, by 9 votes to 2 (the Soviet Union and the Ukraine opposing), the Commission decided to discontinue meeting in view of its failure to reach agreement after 16 months.

Third, there is the Military Staff Committee, consisting of American, British, Soviet, French and Chinese representatives. On August 10, it reported to the Security Council that after two

years, it had failed to reach agreement on the principles governing the establishment of a U.N. armed force.

Reports of failure by these three important agencies have been passed on to the General Assembly at its meeting now in Paris. There the matter rests.

The deadlock between East and West is illustrated by the opposing stands on two basic issues—control of atomic energy and disarmament.

### Russia Demands Ban

Russia has simply demanded a ban on the production of atomic weapons and the destruction of existing stock-piles. The Western Powers have countered with proposals for the establishment of a control authority which would have effective powers of inspection of uranium supplies and atomic research and control of atomic weapons—an armament policy which socialists have sought for years. But Russia refused this, arguing that she could not agree to control of atomic energy being "used as a pretext by certain countries to interfere in the economic life of other states."

### Russia Won't Tell

On the question of Russia's repeated call for reduction of armaments by one-third, it is significant that at no time have the Soviets given any idea as to how such disarmament could be brought about; where the reduction should be made; and most important of all, what inspection Russia is willing to permit of her present armament levels and of future reductions.

It is on this precise point that negotiations have foundered, resulting in an atmosphere of growing uncertainty. In Canada, the Official Opposition can and does question the Defence Minister regarding our armed forces. The Minister must answer. When he does, the information is available to Moscow as well as to Canadians. So it is with all the Western Powers. But no one in Russia can ask similar questions; and the Soviet Union has repeatedly refused to provide such information.

As long as Russia continues to evade such issues as control and inspection of arms, her plea for disarmament cannot be accepted as genuine; and the Western Powers have told her so in forthright terms. The Soviet refusal springs from a nineteenth century concept of national sovereignty which, if accepted, would render impossible all international planning and co-operation, economically or politically, that socialists have sought for generations.



U.N. goes directly to the people. Here hungry, war-battered children fill up on food from the U.N. International Children's Emergency Fund, which gives a daily supplementary meal to 5,000,000. People everywhere support this work through the U.N. Appeal for Children.

# Speculation and Gambling

## Alberta Wheat Pool Budget

**U**NDER the heading "Speculation and Gambling", the Winnipeg Free Press quotes a statement made by H. E. Halliday, president of the St. Louis Merchants' Exchange, part of which is as follows:

"In grain there is a risk of ownership which follows the crop from the time its seed is about to be planted until it is consumed. Through the grain futures market that risk is transferred from owners of grain to voluntary risk takers. Just as in any other type of insurance, risk is transferred from property owners to insurance companies who are voluntary risk takers."

The Free Press goes on to comment on the selling of Canadian wheat in recent years by the Wheat Board. It claims that through the British-Canadian wheat agreement the prairie wheat producers have lost \$330 million, and states that "had the futures market been available in 1946-47 and 1947-48 there would have been no such loss."

In the face of a most diligent campaign on the part of the Winnipeg Free Press and other supporters of the open market system of grain marketing to persuade the farmers of Western Canada that such a system of selling grain is better than the Wheat Board method of selling, there has been very little response from the people who grow the grain. It must, therefore, be concluded that the farmers prefer also the Wheat Board method.

Whatever may be said of the open market system, one clear fact is that it provides no clear insurance for the man who grows the grain. Furthermore, such a system must, in the nature of its make-up, depend upon a mass of small and ill-informed speculators in order to keep going. It is acknowledged, even by supporters of the open market system, that most of these speculators lose their money. They are "lamb led to the slaughter". When each batch of speculators is cleaned out the market falls flat.

On the other hand, insurance companies work on a scientific basis. The risks they take are based on careful calculations covering years of actual experience. They do not go "broke" as do the little speculators on the grain market.

### Based on Imagination

The calculation of so-called losses to prairie farmers on sales of wheat over the past two crop years is based largely on imagination.

The Free Press does not know what prices the open market would have provided for Canadian wheat in the past two years. The experience in rye marketing over the past six months gives a good example of the uncertainty of the open market. Open trading in flax was resumed this crop year by a government guarantee of \$4 a bushel as a floor price. The market has been "on the floor" for some weeks, with the Wheat Board taking large quantities of flax so that the price of \$4 might be maintained.

The anomaly of the situation, insofar as Canadian supporters of the open market system of grain marketing is concerned, is that British grain men take an opposite tack. The Miller of London recently said: "We have always been able to buy wheat cheaper than any other country when our millers and grain traders were given a free hand and when the futures market was in operation."

### Want Stability

The Canadian farmers want stability in their grain prices. While they may not have gotten the peak prices in the past two years, wheat growers of Western Canada have obtained the assurance of the present government

that wheat price support will be on a permanent policy. Other political parties have gone on record as favoring such an idea. It is doubtful if any Canadian government would ever dare to let the price of wheat go as low as it did under the open market system in the depression years.

It may interest the Free Press to know that most farmers like the Wheat Board method of operation. Under that system farmers are free to go ahead with their harvesting without the perpetual worry of trying to guess when to sell. They know that no matter when they deliver their wheat the price they receive will be the same as the price received by their neighbors, and that the Wheat Board is doing its best to obtain good prices for them.

No other class of people in Canada receive their remuneration on the basis of a speculative market. The Free Press sells its advertising space and its subscriptions at a fixed rate. Professional men receive fixed fees. Labor's remuneration is stipulated in advance. Are farmers to be the only class dependent on a daily auction sale for the returns for their labor?

Serving Edmonton and District  
With Pride and Pleasure

**NEW EDMONTON HOTEL**

97 St. & 101A Ave.

Phone 26828

BRANT MATTHEWS, Proprietor

## HARDWOOD FLOORING BARGAIN

Here's a buy in real kiln-dried Eastern Birch flooring at a price that compares favorably with fir.

It's third grade; there are quite a few shorts; the milling isn't perfect; but at our price you can afford some waste.

Every piece is end-matched for a tough, hard wearing floor, with no loose ends.

Call the

Lumber Number 25236

**ALLEN MCBAIN LUMBER**

COMPANY LIMITED

Corner Avenue at 98th Street — EDMONTON



**Dominion Royal  
Tires**

In big demand—because they're tough and long-wearing. Get yours NOW for safer driving.

**ALBERTA TIRE AND  
RETRADING  
Company Limited**

"SERVICE WITH A SMILE"

101-100 St., Edmonton, Phone 26828





# PEOPLE'S WEEKLY

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE ALBERTA C.C.F.  
PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY  
At 10010 102 Street, Edmonton, Alberta

Publication Board:

A. B. Carr, Gordon Clark, John King, Clifford E. Lee,  
W. Margolis, Mrs. Nellie Peterson  
Subscriptions: \$2.00 per year; 3 years, \$5.00

Authorized at second-class mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa

VOL. XXIX, No. 9

October 23, 1948

## TRUTH — A LITTLE LATE

NOW THAT the provincial election is over and all but one of the former "Douglasites" have been returned to the legislature, they are coming out of the holes into which they crawled during the campaign and are renewing their attack on the government. In the latest issue of *The Challenge*, official organ of the Douglas Social Credit Council, Messrs. Bourcier, Byrne, Ansley and Company (Where's Mr. Hooke?) are outspoken in their condemnation of the betrayal of Social Credit principles by the Manning government. They say:

It is, therefore, tragic that the rise of the Social Credit Movement in Alberta should have resulted in a cabinet-dominated political party, which has, since the death of the late William Aberhart, retained the name "Social Credit" but has progressively abandoned the principles and tenets of Social Credit for considerations of party political expediency. This has been carried to the point of a virtual repudiation of Major C. H. Douglas, the removal from office of all those engaged in disseminating information on genuine Social Credit or exerting an influence in furthering Social Credit policy, a reversal of policy in "The Canadian Social Credit" and, for all practical purposes, the complete abandonment of the fight for Social Credit. In short the Alberta movement has been manipulated into the position of supporting just another political party indistinguishable from any other party except for the name.

And in return for this incredible and tragic development, the Government has won, much to the embarrassment of Social Creditors, the enthusiastic support of those very monopolistic interests most bitterly antagonistic to Social Credit. This should clearly indicate the source from which such effective influence has been exerted.

The black type is not ours. That's the way it was in *The Challenge*. Apparently Mr. Ansley et al now want to emphasize the government's sell-out to Big Business. Of course the simon-pure Social Crediters have an excuse for their failure to speak in the election campaign the truth they are speaking now. They didn't want to help the "socialists!"

## RISE IN C.C.F. SUPPORT

THE LATEST Gallup political survey in Canada, published last Saturday, shows the C.C.F. to have been making steady gains. The question asked by the poll is: "If a dominion election were held today, would you favor the candidature of the Progressive Conservative, Liberal, C.C.F., Social Credit, Labor Progressive, Bloc Populaire or other party?" A year ago 18% of the voters interviewed said they would vote for a C.C.F. candidate. Last week the number had risen to 21%.

The rise has been progressive. In February the C.C.F. standing was 15%, in June 19%, in August 20% and in October 21%. This would appear to be significant in the light of the intensity of the campaign which has been carried on against the C.C.F. by all the other political parties and by the daily newspapers and business publications. (October issue of *Canadian Business*, official organ of The Canadian Chamber of Commerce, carries three major articles blasting C.C.F. policies, besides numerous editorial and other "warnings"). Can it be that Big Business has overplayed its hand and that Canadians are deciding that there must be something good about the C.C.F. to have earned such powerful enemies?

Figures on the total vote do not necessarily represent results by constituencies. But the Gallup poll does provide material for interesting speculation. The Conservatives are ahead of the C.C.F. in the popular vote, polling 27%. But unless Quebec goes Conservative, which is not as likely as it looked a few weeks ago, Mr. Drew may well have fewer followers in the next parliament than Mr. Coldwell. On the basis of the present standing in parliament, plus the gains which are almost certain in Ontario, the C.C.F. appears to have an excellent chance of having a minimum of sixty members in the next House. Unless he can capture Quebec where can Drew get more than sixty?

## PEOPLE WHO COUNT

CANADIANS WHO go to Britain and stay at the Savoy or Grosvenor and meet the sort of people who cannot now live in flamboyant, unbridled luxury as they did in the scarcity of the great depression when the masses were hungry and ragged, come back with one story about conditions in the old land. Those who knew the condition of the working people in the bad old days, and now see the tremendous improvement in their standard of living, have a different story to tell.

The *Calgary Herald* was highly critical recently of a headline in the *People's Weekly* which said that "people who count" were now better off in Britain than ever before. We're not repentant. When Britain is making an heroic struggle to recover from an all-out effort in two wars which had the country white, and when success in the struggle depends on the efforts of miners and engineers and builders and textile workers and other laborers and tradesmen, they are the chappies who count. They count a thousand times more than the chappies who sit around swank London hotels and whine about the fact that they must now share equally in food rationing with the people who do the country's work.

## THE THIRD COLUMN

1943 WILL TELL

Stetler Independent:

"A government with a depleted Opposition simply encourages bureaucratisation and will we continue to do nothing to control the bureaucrats?"

"Will we continue to make no protests when a member like Mr. Wray is read out of the S.C. party because he clears the roads of snow in his constituency without official sanction to allow the children to go to school and the sick people to go to the hospital?"

"His own constituency of Banff-Cochrane elected him over a Government candidate but what about the attitude of the members of the House belonging to his own party?"

"Will we continue to acquiesce in the strange tactics of the Attorney-General in having the police raid the offices of the L.O.D.E. and in bringing into court a noted welfare worker, who was decorated by the King and who was acting as the agent of a highly respected welfare organization which had done better work than the Government itself?"

"Will we continue to vote blindly and leave the legislature with only a corporal's guard as the Opposition, although the Opposition is nearly as important as the Government itself?"

"Will we continue to condone some members of the House in their attitude of studied ridicule towards opposition leaders, although these leaders represent a large section of the people of Alberta?"

"Alberta should be the banner province of Canada. It has natural resources that Ontario, the richest province, could not dream about and make the dreams come true. It has a potential future, due to the gifts of the Almighty, that could and should leave the older provinces far behind. It has oil and gas and coal in quantities that no other province can ever hope to possess. It has a soil that British Columbia and the Eastern Provinces would give their last dollar for."

"Yet British Columbia, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, etc., have the roads and we have only a laboratory for political and economic experiments."

★

AGREED!

Eugene V. Debs:

"It is better to vote for what you want, and not get it than to vote for what you don't want, and get it."

★

TRULY SYMBOLIC

Ree Horvath in The *Albertan*, October 8:

"This Conservative convention here is designed to be the biggest and best in America."

"The flaming maple leaves of the Liberal decorations have been replaced by gold mapleleaves, a token some small-minded critics might suggest, not out of place at a Tory convention, against a background of blue and white."

## FOOTPRINTS

By Their Fruits

BY J. P. GRIFFIN



"How long is it to last, O thou Eternal, this exultation of ungodly men, Biting the widow and the foreigner, and murdering the fatherless?"

EVERY NATION that goes to war seems to do so under the impression that it is defending itself against an aggressor. If, however, such were really the case then there would be no aggressor, and every war would be fought resisting a non-existent enemy!

"In Canada today the bellyhoo is all for 'defence.' It seems so logical to spend money on defence, not only logical but patriotic, not only patriotic but profitable. So we accept the program of National Defence and use it to kick up a dust with which to hide our economic deficiencies."

But military men do not intend to rest there. Having convinced people of the "rightness" of defence they move on to the indisputable axiom that the best defence is offence. The best defence for Canada in the last war was to blow Eastern Europe to bits. Obviously the best defence against a mad dog is to shoot him before he bites you, and military zealots are always championing the bit to get in their dirty work first. Hitler overran the Low Countries and Tojo bombed Pearl Harbor as an offensive measure in defence of the fatherland. In this atomic age the logical "defence" is to blow thousands of defenceless people to pieces as they carry out their daily tasks under a dictatorship which robs them of any responsibility for

their ruler's actions. This atrocity will doubtless be swallowed without blinking by many Christians who have on their currency the imprint "In God we trust."

The capitalists, being more realistic, trust the army. They know from past experience how useful a few well chosen troops can be in "defending" their interests against the subversive activities of other races. We call on Major-General Smedley D. Butler to give evidence as a successful employee on their behalf.

He describes himself during his thirty-three years in the Marine Corps as having been a "racketeer for Capitalism." "I helped," he continues, "to make Mexico safe for oil interests in 1914. I brought light to the Dominican Republic for American sugar interests in 1916. I helped make Honduras 'right' for American fruit companies in 1903. In China in 1927 I helped to see to it that the Standard Oil Company went on its way unmolested."

"During these years I had, as the boys in the back room say, a swell racket. I was rewarded with honors, medals, promotion. Looking back on it, I feel I might have given Al Capone a few hints. The best he could do was to operate his racket in three city districts. We Marines operated on three continents."

In some such way every continent on the globe has been reddened with the blood of those who, under the impression that they were defending themselves, died in defence of a capitalist system which was quite insensitive to the nobility of their sentiments.

## An Alternative

By J. E. COOK

President, Alberta C.C.F.

IT WAS a heartening and challenging thing to hear Matthew Helton, in "Capital Report" from London this week, say that in his opinion there will be no war in Europe this year, or perhaps next, as a result of the Berlin crisis.

There has been a viciousness to the news of the past months that has brought fear to the hearts of readers. The feeling has grown that capitalism and Communism must fight to the death, that side by side there could be no material development for people of the world, and no hope of an alternative.

"A Reprieve"

Each of us has intended making some contribution to share in the prevention of the next war. In the last few weeks it has seemed as if it were again too late. What can we now do? There must be an alternative to war. If there is, it is because there is an alternative to capitalism — Communism.

"A New Disease"

It has never been possible for me to agree with the basic ideas behind the Communist movement for a future society. Always the violent end for our present-day society has been the end, and the end, has

seemed a new — and perhaps worse disease, rather than a cure for the old one.

But it is a complacent and dangerous sort of individual, if his experience has been at all real, that accepts the pill about our Canadian and American way of life being so wonderful, so satisfying, and providing such a high standard of living. The frenzy of the propaganda of the present day is rotten and designed to rot the solid core of decent tolerance that alone can claim virtue as a basic part of our democratic way of life.

"People Not Systems"

It surely is not economic systems that produce greatness in nations, in fact. Rather, the attitude of people who work and play within the orbit of definite economic habits must be the final factor in the determination of value of the fundamentals of any economic system.

Why is there so much heat over the relative value of capitalism and Communism? There is a middle way — Socialism.

"Material Wants"

All of these should attempt to find an answer to the material wants of human beings. Capitalism gave impetus to manufacturing by use of solar energy, but failed to give impetus to distribute equitably the material result. It failed

(Continued on Page 8)



## Honored Guests at Banquet



—Photo by Jack Deakin.

T. C. Sanders and Mrs. Sanders of Irma, Mrs. H. E. Spencer and Mr. Spencer of Edgerton, photographed at the banquet given in their honor at Wainwright on Friday of last week prior to their departure for the coast.

## Neighbors and Co-Workers Laud Notable Contribution

Warm-hearted appreciation of two pioneer couples who have made a notable contribution to the life of their community, the province and the nation were expressed by leaders in various fields of activity when some 120 people gathered at a banquet in Wainwright last Friday to honor Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Spencer, of Edgerton, and Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Sanders of Irma, who are leaving to make their homes in British Columbia.

Friends and co-workers came long distances to join in the farewell tribute to the honored guests whose neighborliness and leadership in every worthwhile effort to promote the welfare of the people were lauded by all of the speakers. "There wasn't any trouble getting the people together," Kenn Tory, banquet chairman, explained. "It was simply spontaneous. Our main difficulty was finding a hall big enough to accommodate those desiring to attend."

### Oxen and Cart

Coming to their respective homes by oxen and cart, cultivating the virgin soil into fruitful

acres with all the grinding toil attendant upon such a venture, Mr. and Mrs. Spencer and Mr. and Mrs. Sanders and their families never forgot their responsibilities to the communities in which they lived. As Mrs. Spencer expressed it to the "People's Weekly," "those were the best years of our lives."

### Wide Affiliations

For three sessions Mr. Spencer represented the Battle River constituency in the House of Commons as a member of the famous "Ginger Group", where he was recognized as an authority on banking and credit as well as on health legislation. As chairman of the Alberta School Trustees' Association, Mr. Spencer has done much to arouse the public to the need for improved educational facilities. Other organizations and groups with which Mr. Spencer was associated include: Senate of the University of Alberta, department of education, curriculum committee and teacher training committee, Canadian School Trustees Association, United Farmers of Alberta, C.C.F., Wainwright school division, municipal district of Wainwright, Edgerton Co-operative Store, Alberta Wheat Pool, United Grain Growers, Edgerton Credit Union, McCafferty local of the U.F.W.A., McCafferty rural telephone system, McCafferty school board, the C.T.P. Livestock Shipping Association.

### Newspaper Contributor

Long interested in the United Farm Women of Alberta and the other organizations with which Mr. Spencer was affiliated, Mrs. Spencer's articles in the "Western Farm Leader" and "People's Weekly" covered a wide field and were widely read and appreciated.

### In Farm Organizations

In addition to his affiliation with the C.C.F. to which he gave loyal devoted support, Mr. Sanders was a member of the Wainwright school division, the Alberta Wheat Pool, the Irma local of the Alberta Farmers' Union and the Irma Co-operative Store. At one time he also held membership in the carpenters' union.

Elmer E. Roper, C.C.F. provincial leader, brought greetings from that organization extolling the qualities of heart and mind of the two couples who had helped to build the movement in Alberta.

All of the following speakers had high praise also for Mrs. Sanders and Mr. Spencer who had associated themselves with the interests of their husbands: W. E. Frame, superintendent of schools; L. Dalbertanson, editor of the "Chauvin Chronicle," who had a special word of praise for Mrs. Spencer's contribution to the news columns; Deputy Mayor Dr. Douglas Wallace, of Wainwright; Mayor B. Crane of Edgerton; James (Jim) Jackson, of Irma; Dr. J. Bradley, for the Wainwright Board of Trade; Sigurd Lefsrud, of Viking; Mr. F. E. McLeod, Wainwright school board; Dr. W. Folkins, Chauvin, and Andrew Wood, representative of the U.F.A.

F. E. Dixon, Wainwright divisional board; Councillor E. N. Arthur of the Municipal District of Wainwright; William Gilbert, Edgerton; John Murray, Chauvin; Les Derby, Edgerton; Mrs. Arthur Patterson, Heath and Harry Rice, Edgerton.

Deeply affected by the warm words of appreciation and friendship, Mr. and Mrs. Spencer and Mr. Sanders expressed their grateful thanks.

## Deficit Fund

\$1.00—  
J. M. Black.

\$2.00—

Mrs. P. W. Pettit, T. Weeks Jonathan Atkinson, W. Nelson, Mrs. A. G. Collard, W. J. Harper, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Morrison, A. Landry, Ole Prestbakmo, Thos. A. Jones, R. E. Ricker, Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Schmidt, J. A. Riddle, John P. Liebe, Harry Peters, George McFall, Alex. Craig, Norman Arnold, Glen K. Newell, C. M. Finseth, A. B. Wood, G. E. Gilbertson, F. Bootsman, Wm. Bootsman, T. Bootsman, R. D. McConnell, L. Gowers, G. J. White, I. M. Mihalcheon, Gus Persson, Geo. Kimball, L. Heiken, James W. Shorrock, N. W. Sveika, Mr. and Mrs. J. Galt, George Pae, J. H. Dearnaley, J. K. McGregor, John H. Page, G. E. Morrison, E. W. Davies, J. P. Griffin, Miss J. Griffin, R. L. Whitney, J. Guignion, Hilding Elmqvist, Olaf Strandberg, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lundblad, Mrs. D. L. Shortliffe, Daniel Dale, Chas. Keely, A. R. Young, Mrs. E. T. East, E. T. East, H. W. Berg, Willie Bolduc, A. Bakken, Axel Berg, John Janzik, Karl Boettcher, Leonard W. Johnson, Ruth Cherry, Whodunit, R. H. Lawrie, Mrs. Daisy Walker, Anon., M. A. Solberg, P. P. Solberg, A. J. Curry, Nils Norman.

\$3.00—  
Stefan Waskiewics.

\$4.00—  
Mr. and Mrs. John Lloyd, Mr. and Mrs. E. Erikson, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Holmgren, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Risdon, J. T. and M. E. Nelles, Mr. and Mrs. Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. H. Meyerman, Mrs. Arthur Tovel, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Grinde, Jack Sutherland, Anon.

\$5.00—  
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Coldwell, Wm. L. Platt, Geo. B. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Fletcher, Mr. and Mrs. H. Davis, C. M. of Bashaw, C. H. J. of Bashaw, C. A. Coutts, Walter F. Silverton, F. Slocum.

\$10.00—  
Gust Erdman, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Schmidt and Ray and Laura, Mr. and Mrs. Uri Powell and Hugh and Maurice Powell.

\$25.00—  
A. E. Stryker

### Scholarship Winner



RUTH NICHOLSON.

## HIGH HONORS FOR M.P.'S DAUGHTER

REGINA.—Ruth Nicholson, daughter of A. M. Nicholson, M.P., and Mrs. Nicholson, of Sturges, has left recently to enter the University of Toronto. She has been awarded the Irwin Hilliard scholarship, entitling her to free tuition at the university for four years and \$150 in cash.

Ruth has been an active C.C.Y.M. in Canora and Ottawa, where she has attended high school for the past two years. She took grades XI, XII and XIII in two years in Ottawa, winning the general proficiency prize a year ago and the Hilliard scholarship in competition with students in all the schools in Ontario. She is 17 years of age and is taking the political science course in Toronto.

## 40 DAYS' NOTICE OF VOTE IS URGED

That 40 days' notice be given of the announcement of a provincial election date was urged in a resolution passed at the regular meeting of the Edmonton C.C.F. on Tuesday evening.

Opposition was also voiced in another resolution to any increase in the fares of the Edmonton transit system.

The following committee was appointed to receive nominations for officers for the East Edmonton Constituency Association: W. H. Thornton, Mrs. Jean McNeely and Art Thornton. Officers will be elected for both East and West Edmonton constituencies at the next meeting November 16.

Two interesting films, one on the Manitoba Power Commission's rural electrification program and the other on Canadian waterways, were shown at the conclusion of the business meeting.

Mrs. Edith Rogers presided.

## PULP WORKER IS C.C.F. ALGOMA E. CANDIDATE

Lorne Callahan, C.C.F. candidate in Algoma East, is a past president of Local 67, Pulp, Sulphite and Papermill Workers, A.F. of L. Born 47 years ago in Eldersley Township, Bruce County, he was raised on a farm until his 21st birthday. He left the farm to go engineering in Northern Ontario's sawmills and since then has followed sawmills in summer and logging camps in winter.

## DELEGATES TO REPORT AT RED DEER MEETING

A meeting of the members of the C.C.F. Federal Constituency Association of Red Deer will be held in the Elk's Hall, Red Deer, on Wednesday, October 27, beginning at 8 p.m. This is a combined meeting of C.C.F. and C.C.N.M. members to hear reports from delegates to the National Convention.

A social evening will follow the business meeting with lunch served by the Red Deer House C.C.F. group.

## Professional and Business Directory

### CONTRACTORS

**DICCONSON & COMPANY**  
Designers and Builders  
"All Types of Construction"  
PHONES 27855 - 34642

"Luxury Homes for  
Working People"  
**Nu-Wast Homes  
Limited**  
6108 - 114 Ave.—Phone 72155  
EDMONTON

**DENTAL LABORATORIES**  
**Alberta Dental  
Laboratory**  
Churchill Bldg.  
Above Army, Navy and  
Airforce Club  
9984 Jasper Ave., Suite No. 31

**JEWELLERS**  
**J. RAE**  
WATCH REPAIR  
SPECIALIST  
We also stock  
Watches and Clocks  
"Mail Orders Receive  
Prompt Attention"  
10128 Jasper Avenue  
Phone 21607

**A. G. TOLLER**  
JEWELLER  
Diamonds and Watches  
10140 Jasper Ave. Ph. 23184

**LAWYERS**  
**Russell Driscoll**  
BARRISTER AND SOLICITOR  
335 Topley Bldg., Edmonton  
Branches: Barrhead, Sanguido,  
Edson Line—Wildwood

**FOR SALE**  
Due to reorganization of our company, all our machinery and stock must be sold as soon as possible to highest bidder. Lathrop, Drill Presses, Grinders, Electric Motors, Electric Welding Machines, Stock Cans and Pallets, Shanties, Sawmills, Road Box with Trailer, Trolly, Turbine Press, Power Saws, Office Motor, Quantity Cardboard Box Machinery, etc. etc. etc. Street Water—Vancouver, B.C., etc., etc.  
ALICE MACHING & EQUIPMENT CO.  
10000 - 100th St., Burnaby 10, B.C.  
Vancouver

### OPTOMETRISTS

**J. ERLANGER**  
Optometrist  
303 Topley Building  
Phone: Office 27463  
Res. 26581

### PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIOS

Highest International Photographers' Rating in Canada—Prize Winner at Seventy-six International Salons.

**GOERTZ  
STUDIOS**  
PORTRAITS & COMMERCIAL  
STUDIOS  
10043 102 St. Phone 25766

**Photographs**  
PHONE 2-5-5-5  
10043 102 St.  
**MCDERMID  
STUDIOS LTD.**

### PRESCRIPTIONS

### DISPENSARIES LTD.

601 Topley Bldg.

### PRESCRIPTIONS

### SAW REPAIRS

**TED MILNE**  
30 Years Shop & Mill  
Experience  
FAST SERVICE  
GUARANTEED WORK  
9563 102 Ave. Phone 29624  
Edmonton

### UPHOLSTERING

**MURRAY'S  
LIMITED**  
Formerly Thornton & Perkins  
Draperies—Curtains  
Upholstering—Shingcovering  
10628 Jasper Ave. Ph. 24834

### C.C.M. HOCKEY SUPPLIES

Complete line of C.C.M. skates and accessories.  
Write for Information  
**Western Cycle  
and Hardware**  
10020 - 184 St.—Edmonton

# CCF First-Term Program

As Adopted at the C.C.F. National Convention in Winnipeg, August 19-21

## HEALTH

The C.C.F. believes that the Federal Government should take the leadership in and assume the major responsibility for the establishment in Canada of a comprehensive health service, which will provide for all citizens full hospital, medical, dental and optical care, irrespective of their income.

The provinces have not the financial resources required for a comprehensive health plan, although they are best suited to administer such a plan. The federal government, however, can find the necessary additional funds through a social security contribution and from its general revenue. It should also give the necessary leadership and set the pattern and standards. A federal C.C.F. government will accept and carry out these responsibilities.

The C.C.F. national health scheme will involve, in co-operation with the provincial governments, the planning, organization and financing of Local Health Regions in every part of Canada as the local unit of health administration. Each region will be fully equipped to give the people all preventive and curative medical and other services.

The C.C.F. realizes that the present lack of personnel—doctors, dentists, nurses, specialists and technicians, is a major handicap in the establishment of any comprehensive health plan, as is also the inadequacy of hospital accommodation. A Federal C.C.F. Government will therefore provide for the extension of training facilities, scholarships and bursaries to ensure that sufficient professional and skilled personnel become available to meet the increased demands of the national health services. Through generous loans and grants to provinces and local health regions, it will initiate an extensive program of hospital construction. Steps will be taken to encourage the location of more medical personnel in rural areas. Encouragement will be given to the expansion of medical research and to its greater co-ordination throughout the country.

No such comprehensive health system can be established overnight. A C.C.F. Government will, however, start on this program immediately and carry it forward as rapidly as possible.

Priority will be given to the provision of universal free care for such groups as old age pensioners and others in need, and for cases such as cancer, tuberculosis, blindness, mental illness, crippled children and maternity care.

## HOUSING

The essential nature of Canada's grave and increasing housing shortage and its disastrous effects on the Canadian lives, have been referred to in innumerable official and public documents and reports, and the basic conditions for the solution of the problem have been frequently stated in resolutions of the C.C.F. The time for action, instead of further analyses and reports, is long overdue.

Clearly, private enterprise, although backed by many different forms of government guarantees and assistance, has failed to meet the need for decent shelter for two-thirds of the Canadian people. Only public enterprise, through a subsidized low-rental housing program on a large scale, can meet that need. This will involve co-operation among all levels of government in Canada.

A Federal C.C.F. Government will assume its responsibilities to initiate as well as to finance a low-rental and low-cost housing program in both town and country, and to provide subsidies where necessary. By the reduction of interest charges through government financing, by the economies of large scale construction and bulk purchasing, and by action to reduce the high costs of materials and to eliminate bottlenecks in supply, the cost of housing can be substantially reduced.

The C.C.F. will, in its national housing program, encourage long-range financial and community planning, and will amend the National Housing Act so as to assist housing co-operatives.

## LABOR

The Labor Act introduced by the Federal Government and adopted by Parliament last session, falls far short of protecting organized labor against anti-union employers.

The C.C.F. re-affirms its determination to introduce genuine, nation-wide collective bargaining legislation, and will co-operate with the provinces in its administration. The C.C.F. Code will:

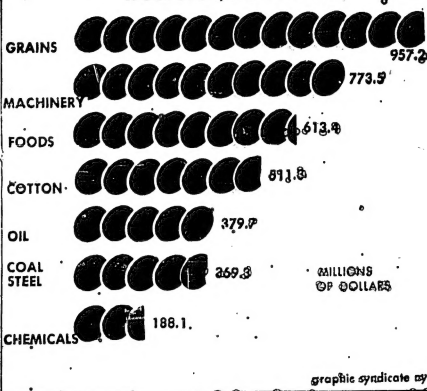
1. Guarantee labor the right to organize and to obtain union security in all public as well as private enterprises;
2. Streamline conciliation procedure so as to expedite the peaceful settlement of disputes;
3. Outlaw company unions and provide effective sanctions against violations of the provisions of the Act.

The C.C.F. federal labor code will also cover the following fields, setting national minimum standards in them, but leaving to the provinces the power to set higher standards:

Maximum hours of labor—Minimum wages to give the worker and his family an adequate standard of living—Minimum age of employment—Vacations with pay—Equal pay for equal work.

The C.C.F. will take steps to secure any constitutional amendments that may be required to carry out this policy.

## What Europe Will Buy from the \$5.3 Billion E.R.P. Aid



Foods and grains are still the most important items of the import program of the ERP countries. Machinery to rebuild their industries is next. Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce.

## COMMUNISTS WARN FINNISH REGIME

By REGINALD SPINK

STOCKHOLM (C.P.A.)—The Finnish Communists continue to threaten the Social Democrats government with Russian intervention unless their demands are met.

The Communist leader, Mrs. Hertta Kuusinen, said in a parliamentary debate: "The signs in Moscow are very grave and the government should remember that we warned them in time."

### Communists Critical

Of Prime Minister K. Fagerholm she said: "As the next most pro-Scandinavian of all Finnish prime ministers, he lacks the requirement for trustful contact with the Soviet Union."

The Communists resent being left out of the government because Mr. Fagerholm refused to give them the key post of minister of the interior with control of the police, though they could have had other posts.

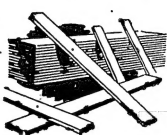
They are also attacking the decision to abolish the secret "state" police which a previous Communist minister had packed with Communists.

## FARM RADIO FORUM TO START ON NOVEMBER 1

On Monday, November 1, at 8:30 p.m., the National Farm Radio Forum program returns to the air. The Summer Fallow program which has been heard at this hour changes to the Forum broadcasts for the fall and winter months.

Every district in Alberta, or small groups within the district, may participate in this program by organizing listening and discussion groups. Realizing that many interested listeners are not favorably located to join listening groups, the Provincial office plans to extend its service by sending the Farm Forum Guide to individuals for a nominal subscription fee. For further information they should write the Provincial Farm Forum Office, 525, Lougheed Building, Calgary.

**Lumber and Millwork of Quality at Fair Prices**



**W. H. CLARK Lumber Co. Ltd.**

10350 109th St. Ph. 24785 EDMONTON

## FOR SALE

1934 Model, Electric Console Westinghouse Radio in good condition. 6 tubes, long and short wave. Has beautiful solid walnut cabinet about 4 feet high. \$50.00

Ideal family Christmas Gift.

APPLY BOX 1 People's Weekly

Forwarding charges are prepaid on Mail Orders from Out-of-Town readers of the People's Weekly.

**JOHNSTONE WALKER**

LIMITED

Established 1886

## Fireworks Splutter Out

## LIFT SUSPENSION ON HALL'S UNION

VICTORIA (C.P.A.)—The fatal Frank Hall, storm centre of the C.S.U.-C.L.S.U. controversy, the Great Lakes, was quietly settled at the Wednesday morning (October 13) session of the Trades and Labor Congress Canada convention, with very little debate. The expected fireworks after the long, bitter arguments during the Tuesday afternoon session, spluttered out.

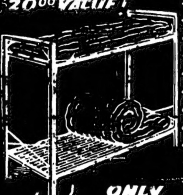
Passed Almost Unanimously The convention passed, almost unanimously, the recommendation of the committee on officers' reports, which were:

1. That the suspension of the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks be lifted.
2. That Frank Hall, B.R.S. vice-president, be censured for "unwarranted activities" in the seamen's strike.
3. That the convention come to the international president of Hall's union full details of the decisions of the Congress.

The two-hour roll call vote table Tuesday showed 545 of the 61 registered delegates supported the T.L.C.C. executive's action in suspending Hall and his Brotherhood; 198 were opposed and 11 delegates abstained from voting.

## SAVE REAL MONEY! War Surplus

**ALL STEEL BEDS DOUBLE-DECKER 2000 VALUE!**



**ONLY \$695**

The quality, articles—made for the Canadian Government up to a standard, not down—a price, a steel frame, size 1 1/2 inches, 5' x 7' as the day they were made. The steel alone costs much more than this sale price. Use doubling or cut and use as single beds. Ideal for spare rooms in the home, lodges, camps, etc. Or or now.

- PILLOWS, feather filled, 14" x 20" \$1.00
- MATTRESS COVERS, 14" x 20" \$1.95
- BLANKETS, Army, all \$2.95
- BLANKETS, pure wool, Army, Grade A \$3.95
- MATTRESSES, khaki, cotton filled \$3.98
- MATTRESSES, kapok filled, 14 inches \$5.95
- COTS, folding U.S. \$5.95

**ARMY & NAVY** DEPT. STORE LTD. EDMONTON, ALBERTA.

PHONE 28427

**THE GREGORY CO.**

Auto Body and Fender Work

"We Fit Them Like New"

Oldest Established Shop in Edmonton

A. J. GREGORY, Manager

525 102nd Avenue

## ORDER YOUR Christmas Cards NOW...

**21 CHRISTMAS CARDS — \$1.00**

21 attractive cards—cards you will enjoy sending to your friends—and at the same time you contribute to the C.C.F.

CLIP THE COUPON AND MAIL TODAY.

Commonwealth Club c/o C.C.F. Office, 10010 - 102 Street, Edmonton

Please send me ..... boxes of cards.

I enclose \$.....

Name .....

Address .....

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

## CRACKLINGS

Seeking to break himself of the drink habit, Simmons consulted a physician.

"The remedy is simple enough," said the medical man. "Every time you feel like taking a drink, just eat something."

Simmons followed the suggestion, and found it worked quite well.

But one night poor Simmons was due for a terrible shock. Hearing a strange noise in the hotel room adjoining his own, he peered through a keyhole in the connecting door, and discovered a man attempting to hang himself.

The horrified Simmons bolted from his room, leaped down the stairs three steps at a time, and collided with the hotel clerk.

"S-s-say," he gibbered, "there's a man upstairs hanging himself. I saw him. For heaven's sake, give me a plate of ham and eggs, quick."

Mrs. Dracula was having a baby, and Dracula was pacing the hall as nervously and as eagerly as any other father. The nurse came in and handed him a little bundle.

"There you are, Mr. Dracula, a fine big baby boy," said the nurse. "You can take him home now."

"No, no," said Dracula. "I'll eat him here."

At a dinner honouring Thomas A. Edison, the toastmaster talked about the many inventions of his guest, but in particular the talking machine. When he had finished, the aged inventor rose, smiled and said gently:

"I thank the gentleman for his kind remarks, but I must insist on a correction. God invented the talking machine. I only invented the first one that can be shut off."

A flustered woman, her arms full of packages, approached the department store floorwalker.

"Oh, dear," she said in an anguished tone, "I'm looking for my husband. I was to have met him here two hours ago. I wonder if you have seen him?"

"Possibly I have madam," he replied. "Is there any distinguishing characteristic about him by which I could identify him?"

A frightened expression came over the woman's face.

"He's," she replied hesitantly, "I imagine he's purple by now."

Complaining Customer: "I don't like any of these dresses. I think I would look well in something flowing."

Tired Clerk: "Why don't you jump in the creek?"



Unlike the old days Mr. Finnemore found that miners no longer go home in dirty clothes to bath in a wash tub. They have free hot baths at the pithead, such as the one above, where they may wash and change into business suits.

## In Britain

# Coal Miners Are Doing All Right

Says N. P. Finnemore

Edmonton C.C.F.er on Holiday in England

I WALKED one day around the neighborhood of two large coal mines known as the Hampstead Collieries. A large number of new houses were being built and some were finished. They were being built by the municipality of West Bromwich which incidentally has a Labor Council and oh how different, how much better they are than the old houses of yesterday they are to replace but which are still standing there! As the houses are completed the miners are given first choice of renting them. What a tremendous advance that is going to make in their living conditions as compared with what they formerly were.

### Build Up Morale

Conditions have changed for the better in other ways too for the miners. Not only do they get better pay and shorter hours but they no longer go home dirty and in dirty clothes to bath in a wash tub as many of you have seen them do in the picture, "How Green Was My Valley." They now have free hot baths at the pithead and lockers and dressing rooms where they may wash and change into business suits leaving their working clothes behind. This in itself is resulting in a great uplift to the miner giving him a respect much above anything he had experienced before.

Owing to the dirty conditions under which he formerly, under private ownership, had to travel home as well as to the poorness of the colliery-owned house in which he made his home, plus the fact that his house had to be adjacent to the coal pithead, tended to make the miners so narrow, self-contained group that was rather looked down upon, if not actually ostracized, by many of the rest of the community. That is now being changed and many of the miners no longer live around the pithead but sometimes miles away and buses are provided to take them to and from their work.

Palace as Headquarters  
A few days later I went to the

headquarters of the National Coal Board of the West Midlands Division and during a very pleasant two hours' visit gleaned some further information relative to the coal industry.

The offices occupy what was once the seat of the Earl of Dudley, a great country house situated in beautiful, spacious grounds. Many of these great old-fashioned country houses—or it might be better to call them palaces—under the changed conditions in England are beyond the financial ability of their private owners to keep up and it appears to me to be altogether good that the government should put them to such useful purposes.

### New Equipment

I learned that a great deal is being done to modernize the mines which for the most part were being run under conditions that had become out-dated and by present standards were very inefficient.

I was told of a wonderful machine known as the Nico-Moore coal-cutting machine which cuts the coal three ways at once and in such a pattern that the coal falls on an endless band-ender which loads the coal into the mine cars without shovelling. Four men operating this machine do the work that formerly required the very hard work of about twenty men. These machines cannot be installed in all mines but they are being put into all suitable mines as quickly as possible. Many mines, because they were not planned for efficient haulage, use as many as two or three haulage men down the mine for one miner at the face of the coal.

### Modernizing Program

Everything is being done by electrification and so on to improve conditions so that the rate of haulage men to miners may be cut and the number of tons per man per shift may be augmented thus greatly increasing the quantity of coal produced and cutting

the price per ton.

I was shown a plan of the top of a pit that had been so badly planned that it takes 12 men at the mine shaft to handle half ton cars whereas when the government has modernized the handling, four men will be able to handle five ton cars.

The government is bent on transforming coal mining from a one-time looked down upon, dirty job into a career that will actually attract men to it.

### Scholarships for Miners

Formerly there was little chance for a lad, usually the son of a miner, who went down the pit to ever become anything more than a miner to the end of his days. The government is trying to change that and is offering each year fifty scholarships for men under twenty-five years for a three-year course in mining engineering at a university. These scholarships are for three hundred pounds per year and in the case of a married man will be increased in order to make provision for his wife and children during his years of study.

Years of neglect and mismanagement had reduced the mining industry to a pitiful condition so that from 1913 to 1946 the labor force had fallen to the lowest figure on record. But in 1947 there was an increase of twenty-six thousand men as against a decrease of four thousand in 1946. In the West Midlands division last year 556 youths under 16 years had come into the industry and at least half of them did not come from mining families.

The Tory press has made much capital out of the fact that there has been a net deficit of £23,250,000 in the 1946 year under public ownership but they omitted to state that the government paid a subsidy of 27½ million pounds to the capitalist colliery owners between the years 1942 and 1946.

(Continued on Page 8)

# Now-

More than ever

# GAS

is your household bargain.

Natural Gas actually costs you less now than in 1939

EDMONTON'S GAS COMPANY



# THE Bay

Shop Every Week-End In  
The Bay's Self-Selection  
Food Shops

- SAVE TIME
- SAVE MONEY
- SAVE EFFORT

One-Stop Service Foods, Basement Floor

Indus Bay Company

INCORPORATED 27 MAY 1977



## Personal Stuff

(Continued from Page 1)

During the reception of the many expressions of affection, respect and admiration by the representatives of a score of more or less community and provincial organizations. The banquet was hurriedly organized, with no formal invitations issued. But every seat at the tables was taken, the hall full. It was largely a gathering of neighbors seeking to show their love and appreciation of some very wonderful people. I am sure the hearts of Henry and Mrs. Spencer and Tom and Mrs. Sanders must have been greatly warmed by it.

A year ago M. J. Caldwell and I were in the Peace River country. The Board of Trade arranged a luncheon for Mr. Caldwell, a generous and courteous tribute to a great Canadian. During the week or so before the visit, when the business men of the town were talking about it, one of them said something very complimentary of Caldwell to one of the C.C.F. men in the constituency. The C.C.F. man took advantage of it. "If that is what you think of Caldwell," he said, "how can you at the same time hold the views you do about the C.C.F.; that it is a dangerous, sinister movement of which good Canadians should beware?" The business man hastened to assure his C.C.F. friend that he thought Mr. Caldwell and a number of others whom he named were sane, responsible individuals and good Canadians. But he wasn't so sure of the C.C.F. itself. "And who do you think is the C.C.F.," our C.C.F. man asked. Well, he wasn't quite sure about that, but...

"Do you think I'm a dangerous person, or So-and-so, or So-and-so?" the C.C.F. member persisted, naming some of the leading farm-

ers of the Peace River country who are prominent supporters of the C.C.F. The business man was silent. No, no, of course not. Why, all the people named were good citizens, pioneers, substantial, able, earnest and patriotic citizens. "All right," the C.C.F. man said, "these people and others like them make up the C.C.F. in this part of Alberta. Others like them make up the C.C.F. in other parts of Alberta, in other provinces. These are the people who elect the leaders, who make the C.C.F. policies. It is from such people that candidates are selected, who will make up a C.C.F. government if a C.C.F. government is elected. Now you tell me something about the 'dangerous' people in the C.C.F. Where are they? Name some of them. I'd be interested to learn about them." But of course the business man didn't know any such people in the C.C.F. He probably had been reading the Financial Post.

I thought of this on Friday night when all the people of various political and other faiths were saying all the obviously sincere things they were saying about the Spencers and Sanders. It was a non-partisan gathering. Political references would have been in bad taste, so the provincial leader of the C.C.F. in joining with others to pay a tribute to the Spencers and Sanders, observed the rule. But I would have liked to have said something like this: "These people for whom you have such great admiration, whose integrity and high ideals you so obviously respect—these are the kind of people who make up the C.C.F. in Alberta, throughout Canada. These people and others like them from Sydney to Victoria are the C.C.F. The C.C.F. is people, people like the Spencers and the Sanders... it is nothing else, just people. And when you hear some political

mountebank, or hiring of special privilege, assault the C.C.F. with lying slanders, think of these people whom you are so justly honoring tonight, and say to yourself, 'I will not listen to these vile accusations against the Spencers and Sanders and my other neighbors who are the C.C.F.' That's what I would have liked to say. But it was a non-political gathering.

## An Alternative

(Continued from Page 4)

to distribute the produced wealth and that wealth rotted or was destroyed in the very presence of great human need.

### "Social Wants"

Side by side with material human want is social human want. Government under the capitalism moved a long way toward universal responsibility and satisfaction for the individual, but under the material breakdown or limitation that developed as the great fundamental weakness, authority established itself by violent and desperate means to maintain the system whose weakness became its dominant characteristic. Fascism, in logic, and in fact, the ultimate of capitalism, invoked power to maintain power.

"Violence for Violence" Communism wants to meet and defeat power by power. The end is to decree violence to suppress violence. It is not possible so to end violence. Tolerant analysis, understanding of the purpose of action, and co-operation in action can bring an end to the destructive strife of the time.

### "Capitalistic Hate"

There could be no greater condemnation of capitalism, and nothing more should be needed to bring a people, trained in democracy, up short, than the necessity for this continuous, bitter propaganda. To such a pass has capital-

ism come that it can brook no rival—in business or social life.

Communism is not an opposite, but a continuation of the forced violence of capitalism. Co-operative, Christian Socialism is the way of peace in industry, between nations and individuals. As individuals it is time to hurry.

## Coal Miners

(Continued from Page 7)

The net operational loss in 1947 had been reduced to 6,187,300 pounds. Cost of coal went up in 1947 four shillings and three pence per ton. Three shillings of this was due to wage increases, free pithead baths and holidays with pay and about one shilling was due to higher costs of materials. It must not be forgotten that among the costs was an item of over fifteen million pounds for interest to the previous owners. In the first quarter of 1948 the Board made a net profit of £501,154 after interest payments for that quarter had been met.

## Pictures British

(Continued from page 1)

medical treatment now are receiving full care.

### Many Benefits Cited

One of the first effects was that thousands applied for eye examinations. "One 97-year-old woman was able to read for the first time in 30 years," the story pointed out. Among other results cited were these:

"Thousands sought expensive hearing aids.

"Young couples decided they could afford babies.

"Many stopped worrying about funeral expenses for this plan included not only the living, but the unborn and the dead."

### Brought to Young Doctors

Doctors "never did so much business," since doctors' prescriptions they fill are paid for by the government.

One of the major benefits has been to young doctors. "No longer need they go into debt to buy a practice from a retiring physician," the article revealed.

They're assured plenty of business on their own, though on one condition—that they go to those areas where the need is greatest.

Many rural areas, as a result, now have the services of physicians for the first time.

Overall cost is amazingly low—about \$720,000,000 a year, according to the article. That's equivalent to only about \$17 a year for each of the 43,000,000 British men, women and children—and is financed partly by payroll deductions, but mostly out of general income taxes.

## Labor Gov't Aids

(Continued from page 1)

farm products, given steady employment to farm workers, and reasonable returns and security of tenure to good farmers.

Rural Britain now has a fairer share of new houses and other amenities than ever before. Farm laborers, once excluded from some social services and benefits or receiving them on less favorable terms than town workers, now have an equal share in all the new cradle-to-grave social security services introduced by the Labor government.

### Guaranteed Market

Under "Conservative government after World War I" farmers were hit by the 1921 Corn Production Act, and between the two wars they also saw foreign foods dumped in the country while they went bankrupt. Now, the 1947 Agriculture Act fixes prices in advance and guarantees a market for all the food they can produce. Property was allowed to fall in

price under Conservative governments, but under Labor it has been compelled to provide essential buildings and carry out a good estate management policy.

Production of British agricultural machinery has increased from \$104,000,000 worth in 1946 to \$240,000,000 in 1948. Two-thirds of it is for British farmers who once had to buy imported machinery at high prices, when they could afford it.

Farm workers' wages were only \$7 a week in 1939. Today the minimum is \$18 a week fixed by the Independent Agricultural Wages Board.

### Return to Farms

Workers used to work unlimited hours, or a 64-hour week for the more fortunate, with doubtful overtime and few holidays with pay. Now it is a 48-hour week with paid overtime and holidays with pay.

Between the wars 250,000 men left the land because of low wages or unemployment, but 40,000 have now entered farming since 1945. Workers with agricultural experience can apply for small holdings with loans up to 75% of the cost to start them off.

The latest Labor party leaflet thanks farmers and workers for breaking the potato target of 1,423,000 acres and ending rationing, for reaching the wheat target figure of 2,500,000 acres, and for exceeding all records in milk production, and for substantial increases in pig and poultry production.

The Conservative party has not adopted an Agricultural Charter for the 1950 general election, but many of its best features have already been introduced by the Labor government.

Even when British agriculture reaches and passes the targets set by the Labor government food from Canada, New Zealand and other British Commonwealth and foreign countries will still be needed in great quantities because the Labor government is aiming at raising the standard of life of the British people higher than ever before, and however much British agriculture produces it can never feed the 45,000,000 people in Britain.

## Amazing Growth

(Continued from Page 1)

birth of Desjardins' first credit union in North America, there were no Canadian credit unions outside of Quebec. Then the tide began to sweep the country. In 1947 there were 2,546 credit unions in Canada, with 775,199 members and assets of \$220,493,199.

### 12,000 Co-op Banks

"Since 1939," the Economic Division's report points out, "the number of credit unions has tripled, membership has increased by 623,575 and assets have increased over ten times. The increase in these three items has been remarkably steady over the years of the war and other countries experienced a decline in credit union expansion. The report mentions that there are over 12,000 of these co-operative banks in Canada and the United States."

### Quebec Leads

Total savings in Canada's credit unions in 1947 (including shares and deposits) amounted to \$208,868,273—a gain of \$69,772,191 in the course of two years. Average savings per member was \$269.46, Quebec having the highest average at \$351.31 with Saskatchewan next at \$168.63. Average number of members per credit union was 329.

# Here's A Good Christmas Gift

52 Issues of the People's Weekly will bring pleasure to a friend or relative throughout 1949.

We will send an attractive gift card to the recipient of your subscription gift.

One Year \$2.00 — Three Years \$5.00

PEOPLE'S WEEKLY,  
Edmonton, Alberta.

Please send the P.W. to the following:

I enclose \$.....

Name.....

Address.....